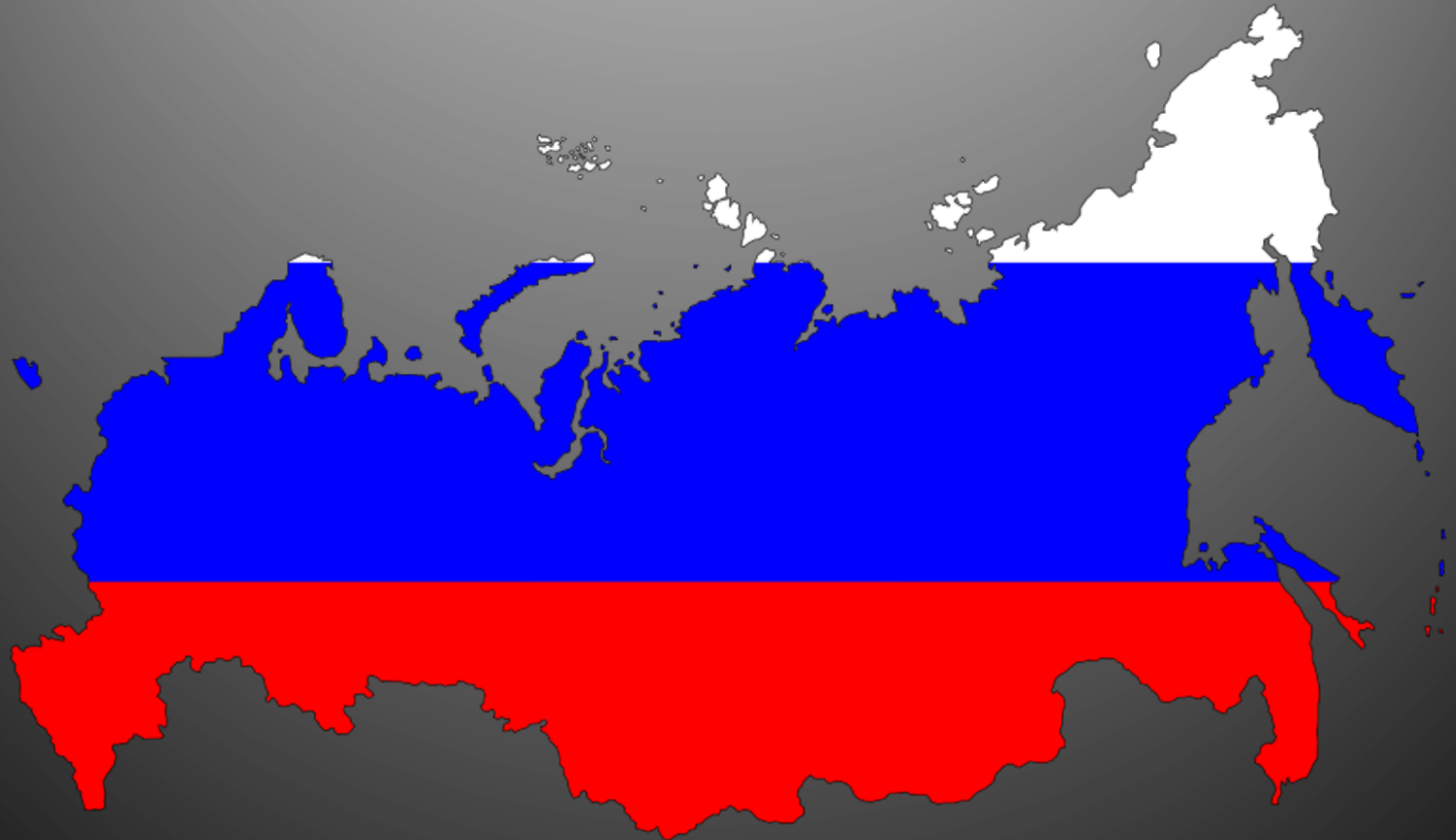


History of Sport and Major Sporting Events in Russia



Sports in the Soviet Union

- The Soviet Union: 1922-1991
- Stalin decided that they needed to be the champions of every sport.
- Physical Culture and Sports Committee
 - Organized sport at all levels from childhood up to the Olympic games
 - In 1980, approximately 57 million people were enrolled in sports clubs and societies



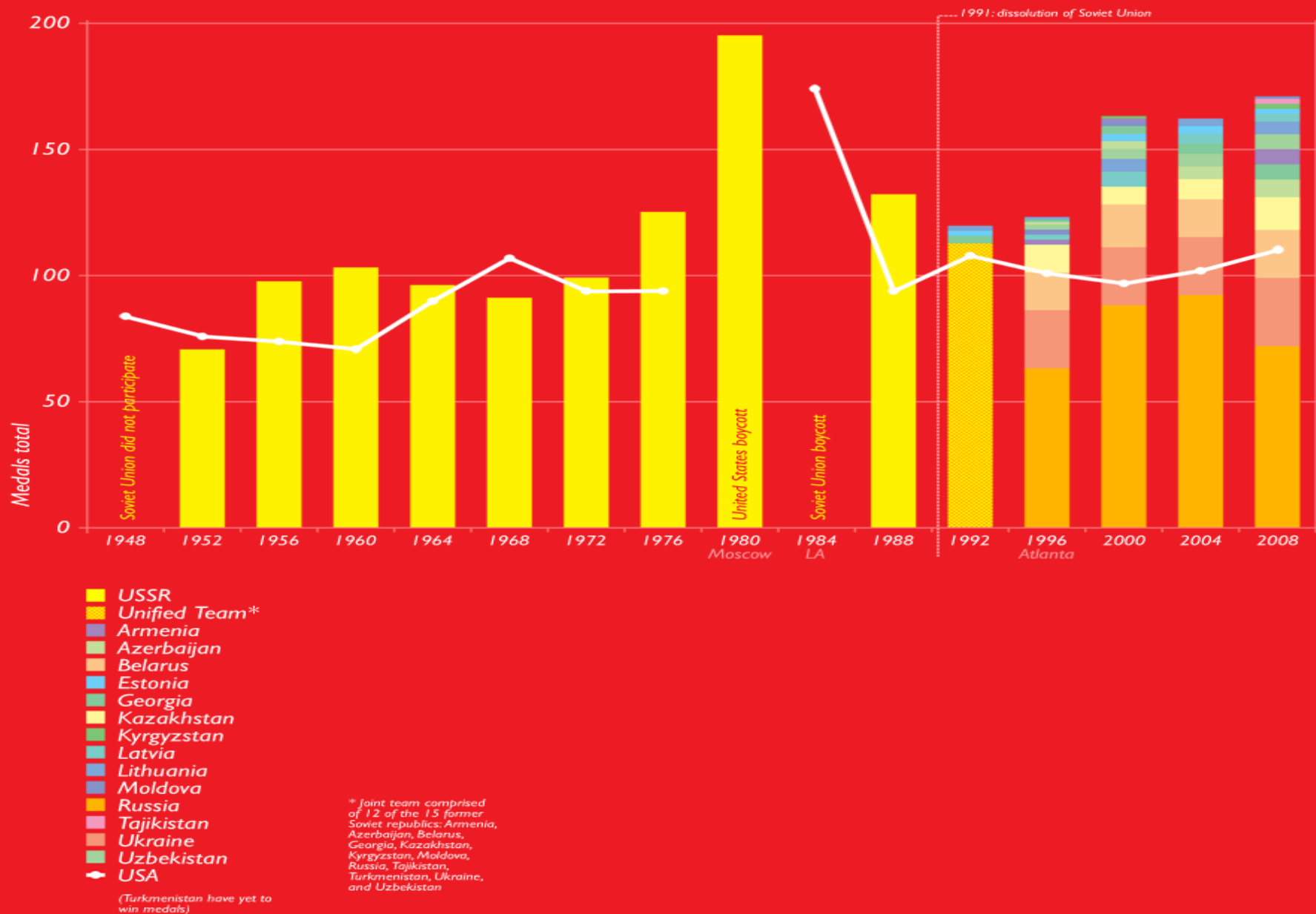
Translation: USSR - a Mighty Sport Power!

Soviet Union at the Olympics

- The Soviet Union accumulated 1010 total Summer Olympic Medals in only 9 Olympic Games from 1952-1988
- The Soviet Union accumulated 194 total Winter Olympic Medals in 9 Games from 1956-1988

OLYMPIC MEDALS TALLY

SOVIET UNION & POST-SOVIET NATIONS



Losing the Soviet Way

- The longstanding tradition of the Soviet Union as a powerhouse has declined.
- Infrastructural issues have been cited as a cause of the poor results as well as no longer having the capitalist-communist competition.

1980 Summer Olympics

Moscow, USSR

- The first games held in Eastern Europe
- Opening and closing ceremonies hosted at Central Lenin Stadium.



Luzhniki Stadium: Awarded a 5-star stadium rating.

War in Afghanistan

- Russia invaded Kabul in December 1979
- Guerilla Force called Mujahideen declared war against the Russians and Prime Minister Amin
- UN Security Council called for the withdrawal of troops.
 - Russia vetoed this as member of the Security Council
- US put ban on grain exports to Russia and ended proliferation talks

Boycott

- A large number of countries, including the United States, boycotted these games due to the Soviet war in Afghanistan.
- For this reason, many athletes marched under the Olympic Flag as opposed to that of their own respective countries.



Sochi 2014

XXII Olympic Winter Games

February 7 – 23, 2014

Locations

- Coastal Cluster
 - Sochi Olympic Park
 - Hosting: Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Ice Hockey and Skating Events
- Mountain Cluster
 - Krasnaya Polyana
 - Hosting: Skiing and Snowboarding Events



Sochi Olympic Park construction on the Black Sea

2014 Mascots

- The Polar Bear



Cheburashka

- The Hare



- The Leopard



Ded Moroz

New Events Added

- Ski halfpipe (men and women)
- Women's ski jumping
- Biathlon mixed relay
- Figure skating team event
- Luge team relay
- “The decision was the result of a number of positive factors, including an increase in universality, gender equity and youth appeal.”

— IOC Website

2018 FIFA World Cup

June 8- July 8, 2018



BIDDING NATION
RUSSIA

World Cup Host Winner

- Russia beat out joint bids by Spain/Portugal and Belgium/Netherlands to be awarded the role of host for this World Cup
- The First World Cup held in Eastern Europe
- Hosted by 13 cities at 16 sporting venues

Russia's Recent Performance

- Interesting to note that Russia failed to qualify for the most recent World Cup in 2010 as well as the previous in 2006.
 - Will receive an automatic bid as the host nation in 2018
- Euro 2008 competition
 - Russia made it to the semifinals but eventually lost to Spain

How Many Russian Athletes Do You Know?

- Hockey: Alexander Ovechkin, Evgeni Malkin, Pavel Datsyuk
- Tennis: Anna Kournikova, Maria Sharapova
- Soccer: Igor Akinfeev, Andrei Arshavin



For More Information

- <http://sochi2014.com/en/>
 - Sochi 2014 Olympics
- <http://www.fifa.com/worldcup/russia2018/index.html>
 - FIFA World Cup 2018 in Russia

Sources

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